IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Michael ARMANO et al.

Serial No.: 10/708,962 Group Art Unit: 3689

Filed: 4/2/2004 Examiner: Tan Nguyen

Title: BUSINESS PRACTICES ALIGNMENT METHODS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this preliminary amendment.